comprises 2 in Adilabad, 6 in Mehboobnagar and 14 from Warangal districts. No study has been conducted by this Department.

New Agriculture Policy

†105. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas, issues and programmes included in the New Agriculture Policy;

(b) whether any special provision has been made for facing the national calamities and drought situation under the said New Agriculture Policy;

(c) the areas where recommendations made in the policy have been implemented; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The National Policy on Agriculture seeks to actualise the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster agricultural development, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro business, creat employment in rural areas, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families, discourage migration to urban areas and face the challenges arising out of economic liberalization and globalisation. Over the next two decades, it aims to attain:

A growth rate in excess of 4 per cent per annum in the agriculture sector, growth that is based on efficient use of resources and conserves our soil, water and bio-diversity; growth with equity, *i.e.*, growth which is widespread across regions and farmers; growth that is demand driven and caters to domestic markets and maximises benefits from exports of agricultural products in the face of the

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

challenges arising from economic liberalization and globalisation, growth that is sustainable technologically, environmentally and economically.

(b) National Agriculture Insurance Scheme covering all farmers and all crops throughout the country with built in provisions for insulating farmers from financial distress caused by natural disasters and making agriculture financially viable, will be made more farmer specific and effective. Endeavour will be made to provide a package insurance policy for the farmers, right from sowing of the crops to post-harvest operations, including market fluctuations in the prices of agricultural produce.

In order to reduce risk in agriculture and impart greater resilience to Indian agriculture against droughts and floods, efforts will be made for achieving greater flood proofing of flood prone agriculture and drought proofing of rainfed agriculture for protecting the farmers from vagaries of nature. For this purpose, contingency agriculture planning, development of drought and flood resistant crop varieties, watershed development programmes, drought prone areas and desert development programmes and rural infrastructure development programmes will receive particular attention.

(c) and (d) Agriculture being State subject, the Government of Indian association with Stafe Governments is implementing various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancement of agriculture production and productivity and also for better input management, generation and transfer of latest technology, development of marketing structure, improvement of institutional structure and optimal use and conservation of natural resources including land, soil and water. The Government has recently integrated twenty seven Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Macro-Management Mode of agriculture in order to accord greater flexibility to State Governments to enable them to formulate regionally differentiated Work Plans as per their crop/area/target group specific requirements.